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Saturday, February 2, 2013

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Ken and Pat - Happy 43rd Anniversary of Love, Laughter and Life



Ken and Pat met in the fall of 1966 when the romance gods were smiling down on them. They came from similar farming backgrounds and dated all thru high school. They married December 21st, 1969, and have two



children and four grandchildren. They love to travel, all over, but, they keep returning to Aruba, for the friendly people, the magical land of sunshine, the beach sand that

shines like diamonds, and the beautiful ocean. The years have gone by, the love and respect have grown stronger, and they feel blessed to have such a full life. So why not have

a renewal of vows on their favorite island this 43rd year of their married life together with their best friends Joe and Gayle who accompanied them on this trip. Joe was their best man at their wedding. Their good friend Karen Lutzker of Cayena Weddings contacted Aruba's wedding planner, Edwina Werleman of E2 Events to make all the arrangements. Joe and Gayle were waiting at the beautifully decorated beach for Ken and Pat to arrive. Everything was perfect, from the flowers, to the personalized prepared memorable renewal of vows



ceremony officiated by Diane Keijzer, to the champagne

toast to the love witnessed that afternoon at sunset, to all the images of this special moment in their lives captured by photographer Kees Keijzer. Pat said "What more could we want or need? Life has been good." Congratulations and best wishes!

Photos show Ken and Pat on their wedding day 43 years ago back home in Pennsylvania, and the day of their renewal of vows recently on Aruba.



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Aura Casino: "Where players win"



Mrs. LoPresti

Aura Casino at the Occidental Grand is the place to play right now! The cash prizes are flowing out and happy



Mr. Borges

players are leaving with big smiles on their faces. Recently, Mrs. Peggy LoPresti was one of those



Mrs. Cannarozzo

happy winners. Mrs. LoPresti found her lucky streak in the newly renovated Aura Casino "where players win."



Mr. Dan Abbott

She won a total amount of **\$1,541,09** while playing on the brand new slot machine "Quick Hits."

Mrs. LoPresti is on vacation with her husband for 1 week, they came all the way from Boston to enjoy the beautiful weather that Aruba has to offer.

Another happy winner was Mr. German Borges, who won a total amount of **\$1,080,11** at the Aura Casino while playing on the brand new slot machine "Triple Shot."

Mrs. Vicki Cannarozzo also decided to join the winners. Mrs. Cannarozzo won a

total amount of **\$2,500**, playing the slotmachine "Black & White Double Jackpot"

Mr. Dan Abbott found his lucky streak in the newly renovated Aura Casino "where players win".

He won a total amount of **\$1,588,07** at the Aura Casino at the Occidental

Grand while playing on the brand new slot machines!

Mr. Abbott's win was on the slotmachine "Quick Hits"

Staff & Management want to congratulate all the lucky winners and invite everyone to come and win at the Aura Casino at the Occidental Grand: "Where players win."

The center of Aruba has definitely shifted here at the Aura Casino, which happens to be smack-dab in the middle of all the action on Palm Beach.

Come and try your luck, maybe you can be one of Aura Casino's next lucky winners!

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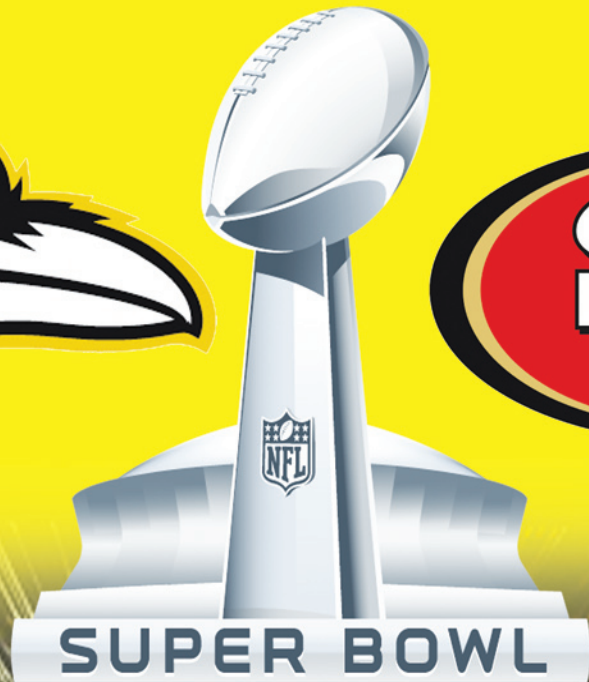




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Carnival and vacation photography tips Part II

Memory loss making you crazy?

Everyone is very pleased and excited when they have a shiny new digital camera to take on vacation, whether a gift or one they have chosen as a gift to themselves. Many terms are thrown at shoppers when choosing their device, but how much of this do they actually understand?

It is to a consumer's best interest to take a little time to understand the terms, to get the most bang for your buck. Also understand that as pix are saved to camera memory or a memory card, you are dealing with an aspect that does not have unlimited capacity. You cannot just keep taking pictures forever. It is highly likely that at some crucial point, you will find your card full, with some very memorable moments to be lost. You will either have to do some on-the-spot deletions, or download the stored pix and save them.

Most small, point and shoot digital cameras come with some onboard memory that will store pix, as well as the memory card. The user must set the camera as to where they want the pix to be saved. Most small cameras use a micro-memory card (like those used in cell phones) or what is basically the industry standard, an SDHC or SXHC (not much different, but XC is supposed to write to memory faster) or the larger Compact Flash cards, though the last is rare, only in some models of the larger Single Lens Reflex cameras, or DSLR. When it comes to the size of the camera, consumer demand has made manufacturers decide "smaller is better," but when it comes to memory and storage, capability does matter; the bigger and faster, the better.

More memory storage does not have to require a physically larger card. Other

factors will affect your needs and price. Cards can cost as little \$4.00 for a 4GB 4x SDHC card, perfectly suited to the average consumer, to \$700 for a 256GB Professional 600x SDXC card geared for those using their HD video mode to make theater grade movies.

The technical terms applied to memory cards may leave you confused, particularly if you have a limited budget. Obviously, the greater the number of GB, the more the card will hold, but why are some 8GB cards more expensive than a 16GB or 32GB card? That is where the rating number (usually followed by an X) is important. The higher the rating, the faster images are written to memory. If you are taking low resolution, small images of no import, a cheap, slow card will serve you quite well. If you wish to record video of any decent quality, a faster, larger card is needed, particularly as videos use up an enormous amount of memory. Also, if you will be taking large, high resolution still pix, the speed with which they are written to the card will be noticeable, and if you plan to take many in rapid succession, (such as a sporting event, concert or carnival parade) a faster, high quality card is needed.

Professional photographers download their images to computer daily, and usually copy them to an additional storage device to be certain of not losing any. It is a good practice to clean up your card on a regular basis, even if you are not a pro. It is



also healthier and extends the use of your card if you format it on a regular basis, which will delete any images.

Setting the size and resolution of your images to fit their use will also determine how many pictures you can take. If you plan on taking lots of pix during a carnival parade, empty your card and check the camera settings for size and resolution. (READ

the INSTRUCTION booklet to do this, each model camera has a particular process.) If only planning to keep the image in your computer, post to your social media or perhaps e-mail to friends, a low resolution will more than suffice and allow you to take many, many more pix. If you want to produce quality prints, using the very highest resolution and size your camera allows is needed, but this will severely reduce the number of shots you can store. Either empty out your card or purchase a new and larger one if you don't wish to give up any pix.

If you are here on vacation and do not have a

computer to which to download your shots, visit either the Fuji Shop on the Caya G.F. Betico Croes in Oranjestad or Checkpoint Color, which is around the corner. Both have facilities to download your pictures and burn them to a CD. Even if you have space at the end of your stay, you might want to do this to preserve your vacation memories, as airport scanners can sometimes wipe a memory card, leaving you bereft of those fabulous images of Aruba and carnival shots.

Many of us are preoccupied with memory loss as we get older, but when it is in your camera, it is easily remedied/ You needn't lose a single valuable moment or beautiful picture if you set up your resolution properly and have a card with sufficient capacity. Happy snapping!

By Rosalie Klein



RBC Royal Bank

Announcement

RBC Royal Bank announces that Noord Branch will be closed on Monday February 4, 2013. For all your banking needs you can visit our other branches (Sasaki, Mainstreet, San Nicolas).

We apologize for the inconvenience that this may cause.

Government intent on bringing young people into work force

The Government believes that through education we can enlist more young people into the local workforce. Within the context of the changes in our labor laws, Minister of Labor, Otmar Oduber, has indicated that from the study that the Department of Labor is to conduct, we may be able to find a solution for the participation of young people between ages 18-24 to enter the work force.

According to the government, Aruba has a shortage of employees. For this reason, they claim, that it is important to involve our young people into the work force. Many young people are unable to make the connection to go to school and work. What's more, many young people are not prepared or ready to enter the local work force.

The government considers it very important that young people between the ages of 18 to 24 get an education or be re-educated so as to be able to join the work force.

The DAO study hopefully will provide clarity on the number of active young people in the workforce, what types of jobs they are performing, and what educational qualifications they have.

However, what is most important, according to Minister Oduber, is how many young people are not enrolled in school, and are not employed in the work force. The government wants to use either the Ensenansa Pa Em-

pleo, or other mediums to encourage young people between 18 to 24 to get into the work force and fulfill their responsibility to contribute positively to our economy.

The Morning News is privy to information from a local foundation, established a few years ago, Fundacion Centro Hubenil Ami Por, which has as their goal ex-

actly what the Minister envisions: getting young people who are not in school into a professional training program with the objective of getting them ready for meaningful jobs in our community.

The foundation, F-CHAP is short of the necessary funds to complete their facilities where the training is to be done. They have already invested almost Fls. 500,000

from direct gifts and donations from over 400 persons who wholeheartedly believe in the project. They have erected a nice two-story complex which will be equipped with classroom facilities and workshop areas and student lounge. The lack of additional funds has halted the completion of the facilities, but they are hopeful that this

year they may be able to complete the project and begin the program in earnest....they truly hope the funds will come! For more information on this project feel free to call 568-7433 or 593-1876. F-CHAP may well be one of the means of achieving the government's objective for our young people 18 to 24.

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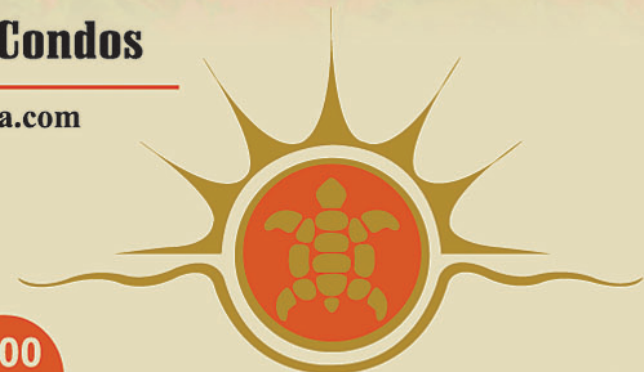
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International News

Israeli raid hit Syrian missiles, buildings: US official



WASHINGTON (AFP) - An Israeli air raid in Syria this week struck surface-to-air missiles and a nearby military complex on the outskirts of Damascus, as Israel feared the weapons would be transferred to Hezbollah, a US official said Friday.

Earlier reports had suggested Israeli warplanes may have targeted two separate locations in Wednesday's raid in Syria: a military site outside of the capital and a weapons convoy near the Lebanese border.

But the US official said the strike was confined to one location.

"It was in the suburbs of Damascus," the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told AFP.

"There were surface-to-air missiles on vehicles" that were targeted by the Israel aircraft, he said, adding that they were believed to be Russian-made

SA-17 anti-aircraft missiles.

The planes also bombed an adjacent military complex of buildings suspected of housing chemical agents, the official said.

The Israelis suspected the weapons would be transferred to Lebanon's Shiite Hezbollah group, he said.

The Syrian regime has accused Israel of launching a dawn strike Wednesday on a military research center in Jamraya, near Damascus, and threatened to retaliate.

But the Israeli government has maintained a public silence on the strike.

Israel has repeatedly expressed concern that Syria's stockpile of chemical weapons could fall into the hands of Lebanon's Shiite Hezbollah group, which is an ally of the Damascus regime, or other militant organisations.



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US takes aim at Iran and Russia over Syria

DAMASCUS (AFP) - The United States said Iran is stepping up its support for the Syrian regime and that Russia is still arming it, heightening fears on Friday that the conflict may spill over the country's borders.

The assessment by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton came as US Vice President Joe Biden prepared to discuss the crisis at meetings with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, Syrian opposition chief Moaz al-Khatib and UN-Arab League envoy Lakhdar Brahimi.

Fresh concerns about the 22-month conflict drawing in the wider region arose after Damascus threatened to retaliate over a reported Israeli air raid and key ally Iran warned the attack would have "grave consequences."

President Bashar al-Assad's regime accused Israel of send-

ing its warplanes to attack a military research centre in Jamraya, near Damascus, on Wednesday.

Israel has so far maintained a stony silence, as well as over separate reports its aircraft had hit a weapons convoy near the Lebanese border.

Israel has frequently warned that if Syria's chemical weapons fall into the hands of Lebanon's Shiite movement Hezbollah, Israel's arch-foe and close Damascus ally, this would be a casus belli.

The Lebanese army, meanwhile, said two soldiers were killed in a clash with unidentified gunmen in a village near the border with Syria on Friday as the military hunted a man wanted for "several terrorist attacks".

After Wednesday's alleged air strike, Damascus affirmed

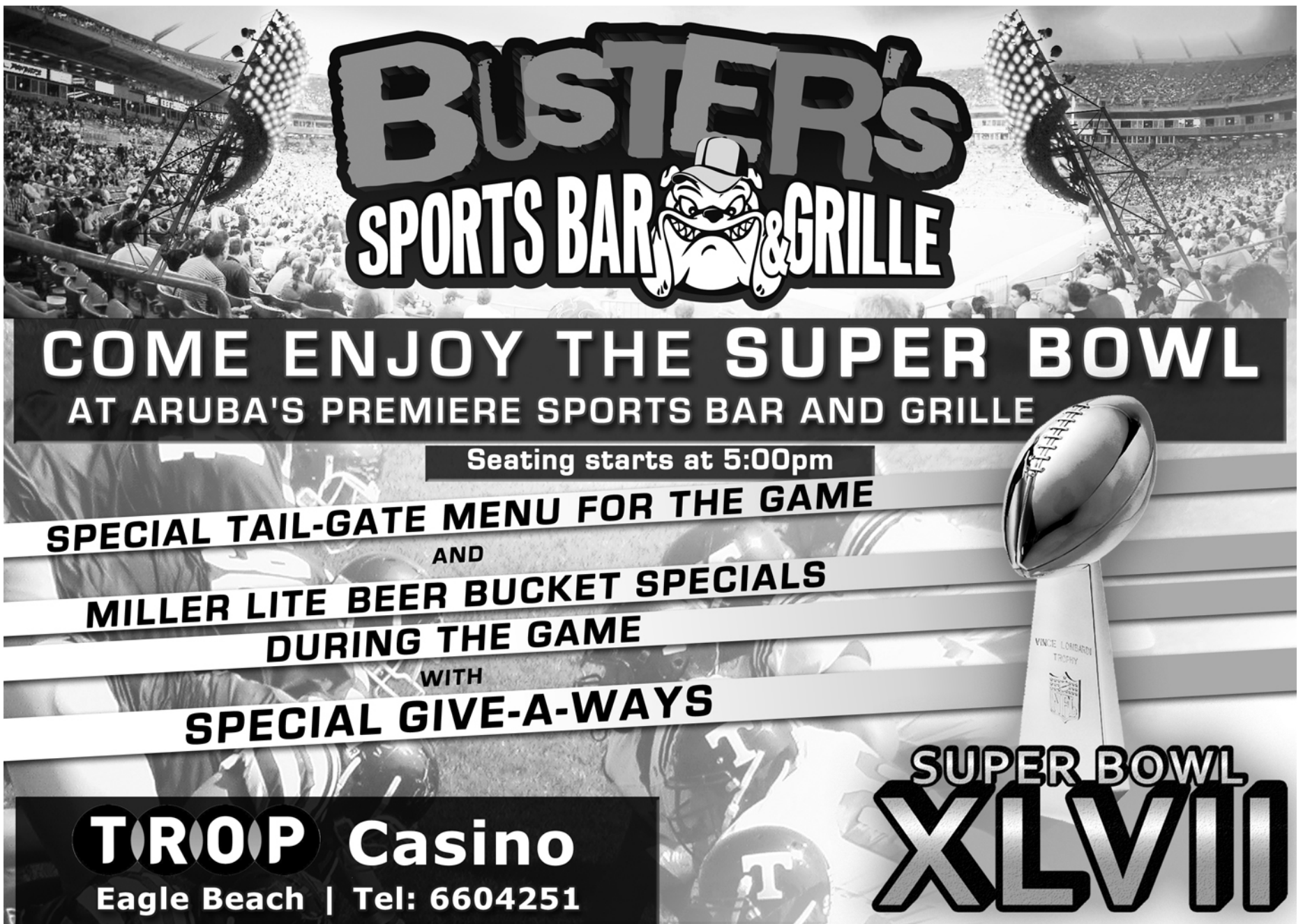
"Syria's right to defend itself and its territory and sovereignty."

Its ambassador to Lebanon, Ali Abdel Karim Ali, said Syria "may decide to respond by surprise to this aggression."

"It is up to the competent powers to choose the appropriate answer, and to determine the means and the place," Ali told Lebanese website Al-Ahad, which is close to Hezbollah.

Damascus ally Iran was also strident, with Deputy Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian warning that the "Zionist regime's attack on the outskirts of Damascus will have grave consequences for Tel Aviv," ISNA news agency reported.

Russia expressed "deep concern" over the reported strike, saying it would be a brazen infringement of the UN charter and unacceptable.



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SUPER BOWL XLVII

Cubans to vote in suspense-free polls

HAVANA (AFP) - Cubans go to the polls this weekend to choose 612 members of the national assembly, one in a series of votes leading up to the all but certain re-election later this month of President Raul Castro.

Polls are to open Sunday in balloting derided by opponents of the Marxist regime as a "farce" and little more than a rubber stamp of the status quo.

Critics note that the number of candidates vying for seats in the legislature's next five-year-

long term is identical to the number of open seats, leaving little suspense about the outcome.

Also up for grabs Sunday are 1,269 seats in 15 provincial assemblies.

More than 90 percent of the island's eight million voters are expected to turn out at the polls, but dissidents point out that the outcome is a foregone conclusion.

"It is a farce," former political prisoner Oscar Espinosa

Chepe told AFP.

Although Cuba portrays its electoral system as a grass-roots democracy, there is only one legal party, the Communist Party, and no campaigning is allowed.

No dissident has ever been allowed to run for office and no national lawmaker has stood up to the Communist leadership by casting a no vote.

During last October's municipal vote, in a sign of disaffection with the regime despite

recent economic reforms, government critics urged voters to write a "D" on their ballots, to press for a direct presidential vote.

Cuba watchers also say there has been an increasing number of blank ballots cast in recent elections.

Havana held a round of municipal elections in October, one in a series of votes ahead of Castro's impending coronation.

If Castro is re-elected -- and there is no doubt that he will be

-- it would be his second five-year mandate as Cuba's leader.

While the election outcome is not in question, this year there is an element of novelty, with the introduction of term limits introduced by Castro.

During a Communist Party gathering in 2011, the octogenarian leader proposed that all top offices would be limited to two five-year terms.

That would mean that Castro will have to retire in 2018, when he is 86.

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Health & Living

US mulls wider birth control opt-out in healthcare law



WASHINGTON (AFP) - President Barack Obama's administration on Friday proposed rule changes to exempt religious groups more broadly from having to pay for their employees' contraceptive care under his health care reform.

"The proposed rules provide women with coverage for preventive care that includes contraceptive services with no co-pays, while also respecting the concerns of some religious organizations," said Kathleen Sebelius, head of the Department of Health and Human Services.

The proposed changes are open for a period of public comment until April 8, 2013, after which time HHS will determine whether or not to adopt them.

President Barack Obama

signed his healthcare reform plan -- the Affordable Care Act -- into law in March 2010. Some of its provisions have already gone into effect, while others are being phased in over the coming years.

Many churches and faith-based organizations opposed provisions in the law requiring that they provide birth control coverage to their employees, citing religious objections.

The administration now is proposing that non-profit religious organizations, including religious hospitals and religious colleges would also receive an "accommodation" whereby their female workers would get third party contraception coverage not paid for by their employers.

"Eligible organizations would not have to contract, arrange, pay or refer for any contraceptive coverage to which they object on religious grounds," the government statement said.

Some religious groups hailed the proposed policy change as a victory.

"The Catholic Church... won today by maintaining a recognition that issues of morality and personal choice must be respected," the group Catholics United said in a statement.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, meanwhile, adopted a more cautious tone.

"We welcome the opportunity to study the proposed regulations closely," the group said in a press release. "We look forward to issuing a more detailed statement later."

Under the original rule, a religious employer could not have qualified for the exemption if it employed or served a large number of people of a different faith, as is the case for many Catholic universities, hospitals and charities.

Despite the cautious optimism expressed by some religious groups, others complained that moves broadening the rules governing the healthcare law's contraception provisions did not go far enough.

"Once again, President Obama's so-called 'compromise' is unacceptable. Religious and moral freedom is not up for negotiation," said Marjorie Dannenfelser of the Susan B. Anthony List, a non-profit which aims to get anti-abortion candidates elected to the US Congress.

"There must be no religious 'test' by the government as to who, and what type of entities, are entitled to a conscience," she said.

"We demand respect for non-religious entities," such as her own group, which Dannenfelser said believes that "the taking of human life is the antithesis of health care."

Half of world countries unprepared to deal with cancer: WHO

GENEVA (AFP) - Less than half of all countries in the world have functioning plans to prevent cancer and provide treatment and care to cancer patients, the World Health Organisation lamented.

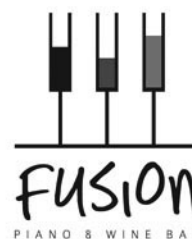
Yet the UN's health body said it had recently conducted a survey of 185 countries revealing that less than half of them, and only 17 percent of countries in Africa, had sufficiently funded cancer control plans.

This is a major concern in a world where each year almost 13 million new cancer cases are diagnosed and some

7.6 million people die of cancer -- a number the WHO warned in 2010 could double to more than 13 million by 2030.

The shortage of functioning cancer control plans is especially alarming in developing countries, since they already account for more than two-thirds of the new cancer cases and deaths each year.

And things are only expected to get worse as populations age and increasingly feel the impact of exposure to major risk factors like tobacco, certain chemicals and infections.



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Mexico releases 100,000 endangered sea turtles

LOS CABOS (AFP) - A Mexican conservation group released more than 100,000 sea turtles into the ocean in an effort to save a species threatened by egg poachers and fishing nets.

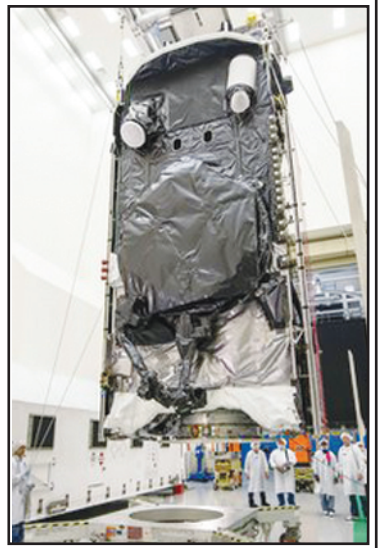
The olive ridley sea turtles, known as "golfina" in Spanish, were released off the beaches of Mexico's Baja California peninsula on the Pacific coast.

Some 1,300 egg nests were also protected last year, 320 more than in 2011. Almost

70,000 golfinas were released off Baja California in 2011.

The olive ridley is a small sea turtle that can measure 71 centimeters (2.3 feet) and weigh up to 45 kilograms (100 pounds). It is one of six species of sea turtles living in Mexico. The golfinas population dropped from an estimated 89,000 in the 1940s to fewer than 8,000 in the 1980s, when conservation efforts were launched in Mexico and Honduras.

MOSCOW (AFP) - A Russian rocket carrying a US telecommunications satellite plunged into the Pacific Ocean on Friday only moments after being launched from a mobile sea platform in Moscow's latest space failure. The rocket may have veered off course from the moment of take-off because of heavy waves battering the former northern seas oil platform, initial reports said. The Intelsat-27's loss means the giant Boeing aerospace corporation would for now be unable to fit the final piece of a constellation meant to provide TV feeds across Europe and the United States. Officials said no one was hurt on the huge Odyssey platform that was once stationed off the oil-rich coast of Norway before being tugged to the Pacific by an international consortium called Sea Launch. Energia chief Vitaly Lopota said the Russian rocket's engine appeared to fail less than a minute after the evening take-off but the reason was still unknown reason.



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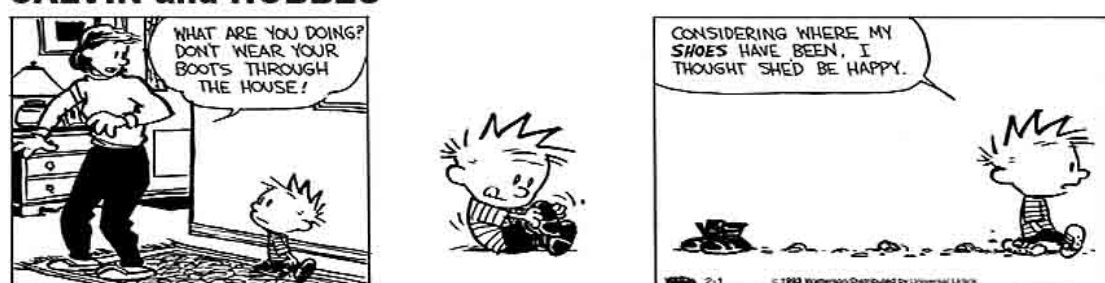
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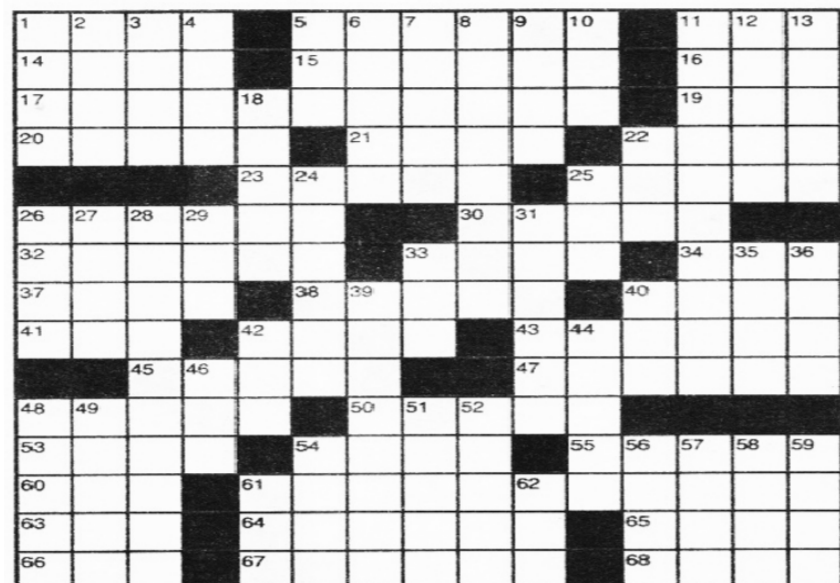
WHICH WAY?

ACROSS

1. Country star McEntire
5. "___ of Love" (Pat Boone hit)
11. Sound from Miss Muffet, perhaps
14. Tennis star Lendl
15. Actress Daryl
16. Santa ___
17. Red-striped winter apple
19. Labor Day mo.
20. Populous
21. Scotch ___
22. Another, in Spain
23. Hosiery fiber
25. Babbling waterway
26. Dillon et al.
30. Salient
32. "___ Twelve"
33. Editor's "oops"
34. Piece of corn
37. Unequalled
38. "Oil capital of the world"
40. Dormant
41. Fido's snack, perhaps
42. Refuse, as permission
43. Treys
45. Cagers' goals
47. Wasp
48. "Rawhide" rover
50. Compactor's "meal"
53. Overly dry
54. Monks
55. Henry Fowler's concern
60. Lip
61. Long Island resort town
63. Hairy jungle creature
64. Golfer Palmer and others
65. Strong string

DOWN

66. ___ Serene Highness
67. Parts of a pioneer train
68. Leon or Ed
1. Compost heap item
2. Orgy shout
3. Straw-storing structure
4. Aardvarks' snacks
5. Role in "Evita"
6. Male deer
7. Yearly record
8. Examines
9. What a collar covers
10. Like a shrinking violet
11. Steinbeck novel
12. January: Sp.
13. Life-jacket
18. Trojan War figure
22. Mine find
24. Site of a fallen arch
25. Fell for something
26. Former WNBA star Rebecca
27. One who scores on serve
28. Dr. Ruth's surname
29. Car-floor protector
31. Scottish moors
33. Furtive
35. Sheltered, at sea
36. Take some time off
39. Discomposed
40. Like certain verbs: abbr.
42. European beetle
44. Unexciting
46. Famously large lexicon: abbr.
48. Bernhardt of the stage
49. Malarkey
51. Trigonometric calculation
52. Gray
54. "Yours ___ Song"
56. Animal-adoption agcy.
57. Fermilab's "smashing" thing
58. Puncture
59. Concludes
61. Proverb
62. Stubborn beast



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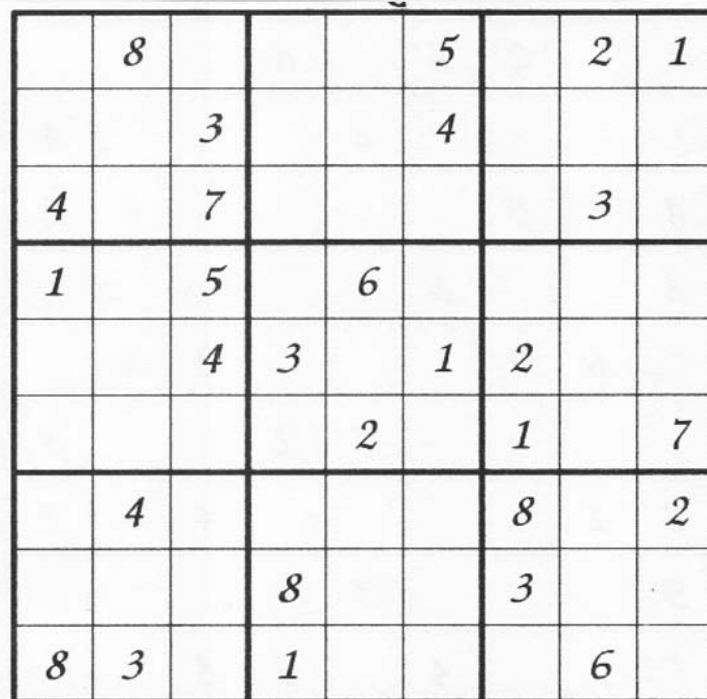
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SOLUTION

4	9	5	7	1	6	8	3	2
6	1	8	9	3	2	7	4	5
7	2	8	6	5	3	1	9	4
9	5	7	1	8	6	3	2	4
8	6	1	9	3	2	7	4	5
5	9	8	6	7	1	2	3	4
8	6	1	9	3	2	7	4	5
1	2	3	5	8	9	7	6	4

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Google reaches deal with French news websites

PARIS (AFP) - Google and France signed an agreement Friday resolving a dispute with French news websites that sees the US Internet search giant setting up a 60 million euro fund to help old media adapt to the digital age.

"France is proud to have reached this agreement with Google, the first of its kind in the world," the French president's office said on Twitter after Francois Hollande and Google chief Eric Schmidt signed the accord.

Google will set up a 60 million euro (\$82 mn) fund to help French media develop online projects, the French president's office said.

The president's office said the fund "will help the news press transition to the digital world."

Schmidt said on his Google blog: "A healthy news industry is important for Google and our partners, and it is essential to a free society."

The deal follows two months of mediation with French news websites, who

were unhappy they were getting none of the advertising revenue Google earned from sending search clients to their news content.

The news websites had wanted Google to share revenue earned from linking to their content, but the California-based search engine had said the practice would "threaten (Google's) very existence".

While French news websites won't tap into Google's advertising revenue stream, the second part of the agreement will see the US company help them generate their own.

Schmidt said "Google will deepen our partnership with French publishers to help increase their online revenues using our advertising technology."

If no settlement had been reached the French government had threatened to introduce legislation, while Google warned it could retaliate by no longer indexing content from French news websites.

ExxonMobil profits rise on refining, chemicals

NEW YORK (AFP) - US oil giant ExxonMobil Friday reported higher fourth-quarter profits on better results in its refining and chemical divisions, which offset a drop in oil and gas production.

The US's largest oil com-

pany said net income for the fourth quarter came in at a \$9.95 billion, up 6 percent from the year-earlier period of \$9.4 billion.

Exxon's annual 2012 profit came in at \$44.9 billion, up 9.3 percent from last year, and the company's highest profit since 2008.

But the results underscored anew the challenge the oil giant faces growing its oil output.

Exxon currently pumps about 4.3 million barrels a day of oil-equivalent. If the company were in OPEC, it would be the cartel's second biggest producer after Saudi Arabia.

But Exxon reported a five percent decline in production compared with the year-earlier quarter. The company cited accounting effects and some unexpected maintenance as a factor.

Profits from its refining and marketing division came in at \$1.8 billion, more than four times the previous year's level. Chemical sector earnings of \$958 billion were up 76.4 percent.

Exxon's 2012 capital spending came in at \$39.8 billion, up 8.2 percent from the 2011 level. Rosenthal said about \$3 billion of this sum went to 2012 acquisitions.

IMF censures Argentina over poor economic data


WASHINGTON (AFP) - The International Monetary Fund censured Argentina on Friday for failing to supply accurate economic data, the first time the global crisis lender has taken such an action against a member.

The IMF Executive Board found that Argentina's efforts to meet its demands for better GDP and inflation data have "not been sufficient. As a result, the Fund has issued a declaration of censure against Argentina."

The censure decision opened the way to Argentina possibly losing its voting rights at the IMF, or even lose it membership.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

G	A	S	P	H	A	S	P	S	A	N	G
R	O	T	A	P	E	N	C	E	O	L	I
A	R	A	L	O	M	A	H	A	F	I	L
S	T	I	M	U	L	A	T	E	S	T	E
P	A	R	A	N	D	E	E	P			
P	I	N		C	U	R	T	A	I	N	S
F	E	L	L	E	D	A	L	A	L	O	O
A	R	E	A	L	C	U	E	H	A	N	O
L	I	F	T	F	A	S	P	A	T	E	N
A	N	T	E	L	O	P	E	A	B	E	
G	A	R	Y	E	L	I	A	P	T		
R	E	A	L	M	B	E	L	A	T	E	D
E	R	M	A	P	A	N	I	C	G	O	A
A	G	E	S	E	R	O	D	E	A	R	N
D	O	N	S	R	A	S	E	D	E	E	R



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Annual SVGA carnival celebration at Renaissance Convention Center



Climaxx Band set the mood for a full dance floor

-- Every year, Meta Corporation, owners of the Aruba Renaissance Resort & Convention Center is proud to provide a special treat for the staff and the more than 200 clients of the Stichting voor Verstandelijk Gehandicapten Aruba, SVGA (Foundation for the Mentally Handicapped) on Friday morning, February 1.

Those living in or attending the various SVGA centers love nothing more than to dance to carnival music, and Climaxx Band gave a rousing show that had all the witches,

pirates, Prins & Panchos and Carnival Queens up and on the dance floor.

The party starts early in the day with breakfast, and the center donates an excellent buffet lunch as the dancing, fun and games continue through to the afternoon.

SVGA Director Arturo Werleman and Head of Volunteers Netty Williams expressed their heartfelt gratitude on behalf of all the special people in their care. "The Renaissance has kindly donated this wonderful day for all the centers, and those

in our charge absolutely love it. It is something the centers work for each year: deciding on a theme, designing and making costumes, and conducting queen and Prins & Pancho Elections. All of the clients are charge up with anticipation for the day, and it is always a thrill to watch them enjoy it so greatly," they commented.

(more pictures on page 13)

by Rosalie Klein



SVGA Staffers



The house of witches love their body



SVGA Director Arturo Werleman and Man na Obra Head Elvira Tromp





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Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Keshi Yena with plantains, vegetables and pica

An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varella Innocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine:

The Queen's.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won

this charming eatery their loyal clientele. Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"- "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena -"Full

Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

Seafood main courses of Catch of the Day Aruban Style to shrimp and a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mus-



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef

sels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or Grilled Tenderloin, each including a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food,

without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local. **They are open from 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining.** Aside from an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!

Annual SVGA carnival celebration...continues from page 12



Prins and Pancho



Carnival Queen Enjoys a dance



Head of Volunteers Netty Williams and Cody

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TE: 586 4046**Sport NFL: Brother bragging rights on line
in Super Bowl**

NEW ORLEANS (AFP) - The most hyped coaching matchup in Super Bowl history will pit two brothers against each other on Sunday.

Baltimore Ravens head coach John Harbaugh (R) will be facing his younger brother Jim (L), who coaches the San Francisco 49ers, in a subplot to the National Football League

championship game that turned into a media frenzy on Friday.

The opposing coaches held a joint news conference at the end of the week for the first time ever in a Super Bowl where John downplayed the brothers' roles in Sunday's landmark contest, saying the focus should really be on the players.

"It is going to be the guys out there on the field whose faces are marred in blood, sweat and dust," said John, who is 15 months older. "Those will be the guys who will determine the outcome of this game."

Friday's news conference was a spectacle in itself.

About 400 media squeezed into the Conference room B at the New Orleans Convention Center, along with members of the Harbaugh extended family, including their parents, uncle and 97-year-old grandfather, Joe Cipiti.

Jim, who sat down first on the podium, wore a 49ers sweatshirt and a cap while John wore a dark suit and tie and gave the opening statement. In between them was the Vince Lombardi Trophy.

"We are fiercely loyal," John said on Friday. "There is no doubt. We always have been. That's definitely not ever going to change. We will continue to be loyal and protective of one another but also of our teams."

"The band of brothers will be the brothers on the sideline. It will be Ravens sideline and it will be the 49ers sideline. That will be the band of brothers in this competition."

John did most of the talking Friday while Jim took a while to warm up. That is until it was time to speak about their mother, Jackie.

While their father, Jack, a former football coach, helped instill in them their leadership skills and was the motivator, Jim said it was their mother that really gave them their competitive edge.

"Nobody in the family has more competitive fire than my mother," Jim said. "She competes like a maniac."

"She was with us every day. Dad worked a lot. She played catch with us and shot baskets with us. She always believed in us."

Said John, "She was not happy when we built a hockey goal with chicken wire when we were 13-years-old and we shot all the windows out on the garage door. She called dad in on that one."

John is more measured on the field and in the locker room with the players while Jim is the emotional one. Jim tends to be tight-lipped in front of the microphone while John, who once considered going into law, seems at ease in front of the cameras.

Their family understands better than most the conflicting emotions that comes with the first brother versus brother

coaching matchup in Super Bowl history.

"They are both very respectful of each other," said their uncle Bob Cipiti Friday. "But growing up it didn't matter whether they were playing hockey, football or baseball. Anything they did they were very competitive."

"Jim is the more competitive of the two. John is very competitive too. He's a little more quiet about it."

Bob Cipiti said he's looking forward to Sunday's game but not looking forward to seeing the face of the loser.

"One will console the other," Cipiti said. "The loser is going to feel bad just like they said up there."

Asked if they could work together as coaches in the future, John said, "We have had that conversation in the past. It just never really worked out timing-wise."

"I would love to work for Jim. It would be the greatest thing in the world. There is no better coach in the National Football League than this guy right here."

To which Jim said jokingly, "Well, Jack Harbaugh."

"True," replied John.

**US dodges Super Bowl
chicken wing shortage**

WASHINGTON (AFP) - In the run-up to Super Bowl Sunday, millions of American football fans can rest assured: there is no looming shortage of their beloved chicken wings.

The National Chicken Council estimates that the nation will wolf down 1.23 billion chicken wings over Super Bowl weekend, or nearly four wings for each and every American.

But fears that restaurants, bars, fast food outlets and supermarkets will run out of the savory snack -- served baked, fried or grilled, most often with ranch or barbecue sauce -- are unfounded, the industry

group said Thursday.

Unprepared wings are retailing in Washington supermarkets this week for about \$2.49 per pound.

The National Restaurant Association estimates 48 million Americans will either take out or call in food for Sunday's big game, with 63 percent naming chicken wings as their "must-have" finger food.

Chicken wings are so popular among Americans that they typically cost more in US supermarkets than they do in Europe, despite being less meaty than chicken legs -- also known as "drumsticks" -- or breasts.

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NFL: Willis primed to take torch from Lewis

NEW ORLEANS (AFP) - Six-time Pro Bowler Patrick Willis says he welcomes the chance to take on the role as the NFL's premier linebacker, which will be left vacant by the retirement of Ray Lewis.

"I have always tried to play with the kind of passion I've seen Ray Lewis play with," the San Francisco 49ers star Willis said. "I can only hope that when people see me play they go, 'Wow. That's a bad dude.'"

With his play the last few seasons, Willis has seemed like the logical successor to Baltimore Ravens veteran linebacker Lewis, who is retiring after 17 seasons.

But first, the two will face each other in Super Bowl 47 on Sunday at the Superdome in New Orleans.

The 28-year-old Willis has made five All-Pro teams, just



two less than Lewis. And like Lewis, Willis wears No. 52 and chooses to refer to his idol as "Mufasa," while Lewis calls him "Young Lion."

"He's the closest thing to

Ray's level," said Baltimore running back Ray Rice. "He plays the game the right way.

He's a tenacious player. I have a lot of respect for that guy."

Willis quickly made a name for himself on some sub-par San Francisco teams after being taken with the 11th overall pick in the 2007 draft.

The 49ers won just 26 games in Willis's first four seasons before Jim Harbaugh came in as head coach and reversed their fortunes.

"There were times in my first four years there was no question in my mind, this is the year, we're going to make these playoffs, we're going to make a run," said Willis, who had 120 tackles this regular season.

"I always thought if we could just get in these playoffs

we have a team that could make a run, we just couldn't get over that hump."

Willis has reserved a portion of his 15 Super Bowl tickets for a Tennessee family that helped raise him.

Willis's mother walked out on the family and his father was a drug addict, so Chris and Julie Finley took Willis and his three younger siblings into their home to live with them as Patrick was entering his final year of high school.

"Growing up, I always loved the story of Cinderella. That's how I felt about my life sometimes," Willis said.

"I will forever be grateful for what they did for us."

NFL: Ravens, 49ers

continued from page 16

Asked how hard it will be to face his brother, John said: "It is probably a little tougher emotionally. I don't think about it when you're coaching against somebody else.

"There's a little bit of a relationship element that's more strong. I will have a better answer for you after the game."

The Ravens won the most recent matchup between the two teams 16-6 in November of 2011. That was the first coaching clash between the Harbaughs.

But there is more on the line this time with the winners collecting \$88,000 dollars in prize money per player while the losers earn \$42,000 each.

Super Bowl week always comes with plenty of hype and this year is no exception.

Television commercials cost a record \$4 million for a 30-second spot. Beyonce will headline the halftime show and Alicia Keys will sing the National anthem.

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NFL: Ravens, 49ers set for Superdome showdown



NEW ORLEANS (AFP) - Super Bowl 47 will be the first to feature sibling coaches but come Sunday the spotlight will be shining on Baltimore's rock-solid defence or San Francisco's explosive offence.

The National Football League's championship spectacular is a classic matchup of the Ray Lewis-led Ravens defence and the San Francisco air and running attack keyed by versatile second-year quarterback Colin Kaepernick.

"The guys want the game to come so quickly," said veteran linebacker Lewis. "We just have to taper back all of our energies, all of our emotions ... and just enjoy the ride at the same time."

It is the first time two brothers -- John Harbaugh of the Ravens and Jim Harbaugh of the 49ers -- have coached against each other in an NFL title game.

The first Super Bowl in New Orleans since Hurricane Katrina in 2005 -- the 10th in the Big Easy overall -- will also mark Lewis' last hurrah after a 17-year career.

The Ravens look like this year's team of destiny, but San Francisco have history on their side with a perfect 5-0 Super Bowl record.

Lewis, who will retire after Sunday's game, will lead the way for his Ravens at the Superdome stadium, just blocks from New Orleans' famed Bourbon Street.

The 49ers are returning to the Super Bowl for the first time in 18 years to face a Ravens team aiming to add a second title to the one they captured in 2001.

"It is crazy man," said 49ers linebacker Patrick Willis. "I've never been a super-emotional guy when it comes to making a play or winning a game. But right now we are here at the Super Bowl."

"I really don't think it is going to hit me until the night before. I think that is when my nerves start moving and it is hard to sleep. I'm like 'OK, it's coming.'"

Willis' NFC champion 49ers weren't ready for prime time last year, missing out on a Super Bowl berth with a loss to the New York Giants in the conference championship game. But they are now and won't want to slip up after winning all five Super Bowls they have contested in 1982, 1985, 1989, 1990 and 1995.

The Ravens won their only previous Super Bowl, by routing the Giants 34-7.

Both the 49ers and the Ravens have had to weather adversity this season.

The difficulties didn't let up this week either with the 49ers having to quell controversy caused by anti-gay remarks from their cornerback Chris Culliver and Lewis having to defend himself against a report that linked him to a deer antler spray that contains a

substance banned by the NFL.

Former Super Bowl Most Valuable Player Lewis will be looking for a big impact in his final game, hoping to ride off into the sunset with a second

Super Bowl ring.

Then there's the Harbaugh Bowl, with San Francisco's Jim going up against his older brother John.

John, who is 15 months

older, and Jim have 34 combined seasons in the NFL, including Jim's 15-year career as a quarterback.

continues on page 15



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